



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Homeowners, Renters and Businesses of all Sizes

Release Date: April 5, 2004
Release Number: 04-69, 3566 - PA

Contact: Colleen Hiam or Perry Pedini
Phone: 716-282-4612

SBA Disaster Loan Deadline is April 26 ***Storm victims still have time to apply***

WAYNESBURG, PA - The U.S. Small Business Administration reminds victims of the severe storms and flooding that occurred on November 19 and 20 that the filing deadline for physical damage disaster loans is April 26, 2004.

“At the request of Governor Rendell, SBA surveyed the damage caused by the severe storms and flooding that occurred in southwestern Pennsylvania and determined it met the criteria necessary to make federal disaster loans available,” said SBA Disaster Area Director William E. Leggiero, Jr.

“SBA’s disaster loan program is committed to helping homeowners, renters and businesses recover from losses caused by disasters. Since 1989, SBA has invested \$214 million in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania through its disaster loan program,” added Leggiero.

SBA offers loans up to \$200,000 to repair disaster damaged primary residences. Homeowners and renters are eligible for loans up to \$40,000 to replace personal property such as furniture and clothing. Loans to businesses of all sizes and nonprofit organizations are available up to \$1.5 million to repair damage to real estate, machinery and equipment, and inventory. Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDLs) are also available to small businesses unable to pay bills or meet operating expenses.

SBA’s declaration designates Greene County as the primary disaster area, as well as the contiguous counties of Fayette and Washington in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; and Marshall, Monongalia and Wetzel in the State of West Virginia. However, to be eligible for consideration under the SBA disaster program, losses sustained must be the result of the severe storms and flooding.

Interested homeowners, renters and small business owners should contact the SBA Disaster Area 1 Office at **1-800-659-2955 or 1-800-877-8339** for the hearing-impaired to obtain an application or for more information. The deadline for submitting applications for physical losses is April 26, 2004. EIDL applications may be filed until November 24, 2004. Completed loan applications may be returned to: U.S. Small Business Administration, 360 Rainbow Boulevard South, Niagara Falls, New York 14303.

For more information visit SBA’s website at www.sba.gov/disaster

###

SBA Disaster Assistance Office/Area 1 - 360 Rainbow Blvd., South - Niagara Falls, NY 14303